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Bristol Bay Borough

NAKNEK, SOUTH NAKNEK, AND KING SALMON, ALASKA

April 16, 2001

The Honorable Tony Knowles, Governor
State of Alaska
PO Box 110001
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

RE: Including the Naknek River Crossing on the GARVEE Project List.

Governor Knowles:

The residents of the Bristol Bay Borough have recently ranked the Naknek River crossing as their number one priority. The proposed bridge would connect Naknek with South Naknek effectively opening a long awaited transportation corridor from mainland Alaska to the Alaska Peninsula.

The GARVEE program you have introduced is an excellent method for the state to fund large transportation projects. Criteria for the GARVEE program requires that: projects address safety, capacity and economic development; have a 5-6 year completion timeline projects be of a large enough scope which would otherwise be difficult to work through the STIP funding cycles smoothly and projects with extensive community support and involvement.

Governor, the Naknek River crossing project is ideally suited for GARVEE consideration! The project is expected to cost between \$24- \$28 million depending upon the actual crossing site; can be built within a five year timeframe; has tremendous economic development benefits; addresses current health safety risks and is supported at the local level.

GARVEE List

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Please consider amending the current list of projects in SB122/HB168 to include the Naknek River Crossing project. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Jeff Currier,
Borough Manager

CC: Commissioner Joe Perkins, DOT
Senator Lyman Hoffman Senate District T
Representative Carl Moses, District 40
Mr. David Eberle, PE Central Region DOT